

## ***AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION***

Please amend the specification according to the following marked-up version  
Page 3 , Line 20 of the application.

5

In yet another approach, one compares distance ~~distances~~ matrices within each  
other of the two structures to be aligned, which provide information about similar  
structures (e.g. *Holm L. & Sander C. (1993) Protein structure comparison by  
alignment of distance matrices. J. Mol. Biol. 233:123-138*; and *Lu G. (2000) A  
10 new method for protein structure and similarity searches. J. Appl. Cryst. 33:176-  
183*).

Please amend the specification according to the following marked-up version  
page 25 , paragraph 2, line 13 of the application.

It is important to note that while the present invention has been described in the  
5 context of a fully functional data processing system and method, those skilled in  
the art will appreciate that the mechanism of the present invention is capable of  
being distributed in the form of a computer readable medium of instructions in a  
variety of forms, and that the present invention applies equally regardless of the  
particular type of signal bearing medium used to actually carry out the  
10 distribution. In other words, the present invention is also a program storage device  
accessible by a computer, tangible embodying a program of instructions or means  
executable by the computer to perform method steps for protein structure  
alignments. Examples of computer readable medium include: recordable type  
media such as floppy disks and CD-ROMS and transmission type media such as  
15 digital and analog communication links. In addition, the present invention could  
be implemented and coded in different programming languages such as, but not  
limited to, for example C and C++ programming languages, JAVA or Java script,  
or DHTML